

(WASHINGTON, DC) - U.S. Representative Chet Edwards announced that he has secured \$543,000 to complete renovations at Hamm Creek Park under the final 2010 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, which passed the House today 308 to 114. Edwards is vice chair of the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee, and was a member of the House-Senate conference committee that wrote the final bill. The final 2010 Energy and Water bill is expected to pass the Senate, and be signed into law by the president.

Edwards said, *"Working with local leaders, I am grateful that we have been successful in securing funds that will enable us to complete the renovations to Hamm Creek Park. As the father of two young sons, it is gratifying to know that thousands of Johnson County families will be able to enjoy this beautiful new park for years to come ."*

Judge Roger Harmon said, *"I would like to commend Congressman Edwards for his persistency with helping Johnson County on the Hamm Creek project. This is a highly beneficial park to the County. This has been a long project; we appreciate his help and will be glad to see its completion ."*

Commissioner Rick Bailey said, *"I'd like to on behalf of Johnson County Commissioners Court, personally thank Congressman Chet Edwards for his continuing support for a well-deserving project It is through his efforts that we will have an extremely nice park. The additional funding will cover other projects vitally needed to create a park citizens can enjoy for many years. These funds will make Hamm Creek Park self sufficient with its' own water well source, make us ADA compliant with our sidewalks, provide a helipad for emergency situations, equestrian pens and shelters for our equestrian visitors, and playground equipment for our children. This additional funding will ensure a completed project ."*

The Ham Creek Park project has strong local support throughout Johnson County including city councils and chambers of commerce. The county commissioners agreed to fund operations and maintenance costs at the park once the Army Corps of Engineers completes the renovation. The \$543,000 will go toward the final phase of the project, which when completed will open the 191 acre park adding a campground with 35 campsites, restrooms, group shelters, trails, playground, and a water well as an independent water source. Edwards has now secured a total of approximately \$5 million for Hamm Creek Park since 2005.